

## DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

U.S. ARMY ENGINEER DISTRICT, SACRAMENTO CORPS OF ENGINEERS 1325 J STREET SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA, 95814-2922

**Environmental Resources Branch** 

APR 2 6 2017

## TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES:

The Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) and Draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the Water Control Manual Deviation at Success Lake in Tulare County, California are now available for review. If granted by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), this deviation would allow the Tule River Association (TRA) to construct a sandbag barrier across the Success Lake Spillway, increasing its elevation from 652.5 feet to 658.5 feet. The Success Dam and Reservoir was authorized for construction by the Flood Control Act of 1944 (Public Law 78-534).

The proposed plan would provide an additional 10,000 acre-feet of flood control space at Success Dam for the current snowmelt season. This would be accomplished through the construction of a temporary six foot barricade of the spillway. The barricade would be constructed of sandbags and would allow water to be stored up to four feet above the spillway crest, with two feet of freeboard. Success Reservoir releases would be managed to allow for the reduction of damaging flows to the Tulare Lakebed area. The deviation would last approximately 90 days beginning in May 2017.

The Draft EA describes the environmental resources in the project area; evaluates the direct, indirect, and cumulative environmental effects of the No Action Plan and the Proposed Action; and recommends avoidance and minimization measures. All potential adverse effects that would result from the proposed alternatives would either be short term, or would be avoided or reduced by using avoidance and minimization measures.

The Draft EA provides full public disclosure of the environmental effects of the project alternatives. Results of the evaluation indicate that the Proposed Action would not result in significant effects on environmental or cultural resources. Based on these results, a Draft FONSI would be appropriate and is included with the Draft EA.

The Draft EA is available to review in the following locations:

- a. The Porterville Public Library, 41 W. Thurman Ave, Porterville, CA 93257
- b. The Springville Branch Library, 35800 CA-190, Springville, CA 93265
- c. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Recreation Center, 29330 State Hwy 190, Porterville, CA 93257

The Draft EA/IS may also be viewed at the Corps website: http://www.spk.usace.army.mil/. Copies of the Draft EA are available upon request.

The expedited public review period for the Draft EA will end on May 7, 2017 due to the limited time available prior to the start of the snow melt. All comments received on the draft document will be considered and incorporated into the Final EA, as appropriate.

Please send any comments, questions, or requests for copies to Ms. Anne Baker, Senior Environmental Manager by e-mail at: Anne.E.Baker@usace.army.mil. Ms. Baker may also be reached at (916) 557-7277. Written comments may also be submitted in person at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Recreation Center, 29330 State Hwy 190, Porterville, CA 93257.

Sincerely,

Alicia E. Kirchner

Chief, Planning Division